

I-15 Core helps small business get around

Genelle Pugmire - Daily Herald | Posted: Monday, August 23, 2010 12:35 am | No Comments Posted

Small businesses that make local deliveries such as caterers, rental companies, even the milk man, need to know how to get from here to there during the Interstate 15 CORE Project. That is particularly true if they run on special deadlines. As the projects ramps up, delays could affect deliveries just between cities in Utah County.

In order to facilitate better communication and help between companies, dispatchers and UDOT, there will be two informational meetings, Aug. 30 and Aug. 31, to educate local delivery (short-haul) truck drivers and dispatchers on how to stay informed and reduce delays through construction.

The first meeting will be held at UDOT Region Two's Hurley Conference Room at 2010 S. 2760 West in Salt Lake City on Aug. 30 from 4 to 6 p.m. The second meeting will be held at the Historic County Courthouse at 151 N. University Ave. in Provo on Aug. 31 from 9 to 11 a.m.

"We recognize that there are a number of businesses along the Wasatch Front that deliver goods and services all over Utah County and use I-15 as a major transportation corridor. We want to make sure they are informed about the construction, closures and detours so they can still conduct their business over the next two years," I-15 CORE spokesman Scott Thompson said.

I-15 CORE driver and dispatcher information meetings are aimed to help businesses maintain timely deliveries and remain cost effective. The meetings will educate delivery truck drivers and dispatchers on how to reduce delays, find information on construction and closures, employ TravelWise strategies and adjust delivery routes and times for efficiency. Participants will also learn how to keep customers and clients informed about construction and how it could affect deliveries.

"We'll tell them about all the avenues we have to get construction information. We'll talk about TravelWise strategies such as adjusting delivery times, using alternate routes and trip chaining," Thompson said.

Not only will Interstate 15 be under construction for the next two years, but many of the local roads between Lehi and Spanish Fork will also be under construction with bridge replacements, storm drain work and relocation of various utilities, Thompson said.

"Delivery routes outside I-15 will be impacted, and we want to make sure local delivery companies know how to get around the construction," he added.

Drivers and dispatchers can RSVP for the meetings and sign up for weekly I-15 CORE e-mail updates at udot.utah.gov/i15core or (801) 341-6426. Truckers can receive a weekly e-mail of construction activities statewide at itruck.utah.gov.

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